FIG. 1

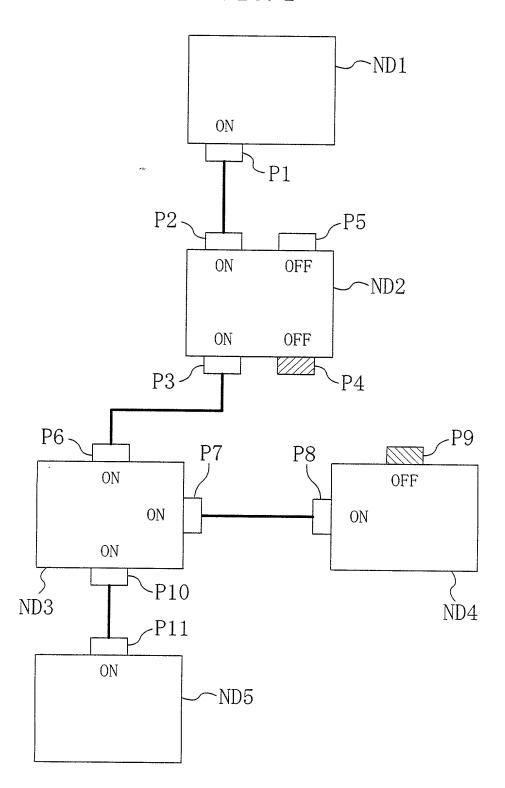


FIG. 2

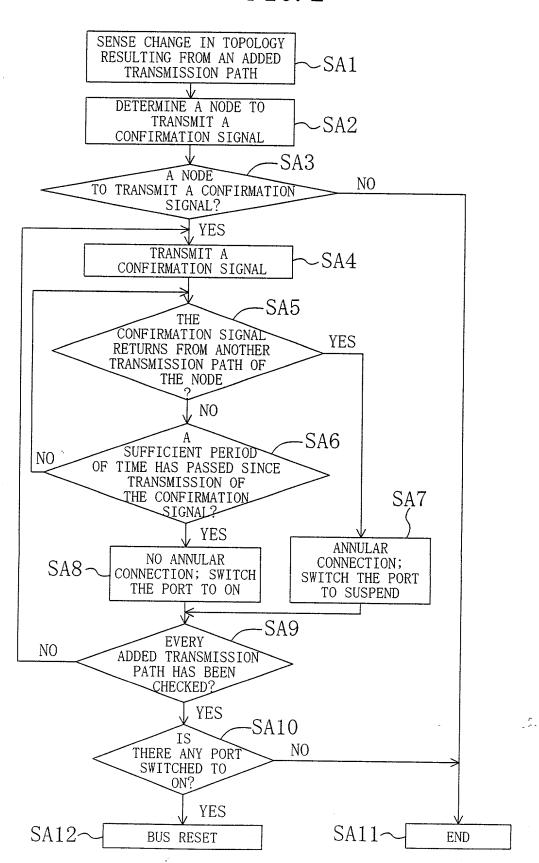


FIG. 3 ND1 ON -P1 P2 Р5 ON 0FF ND2 ON TEST Р3-P4 cs P6 -P9 P7 P8 ON TEST TRANSMITTING PORT ON ON ON ND3 -P10 ND4 -P11 ON ND5

FIG. 4 ND1 ON P1 (CS) P2-P5 OFF ON ND2 ON TEST P3-(cs) P4 CS P6 -P9 P8 P7 ON TEST TRANSMITTING PORT ON ON (CS) ON -P10 ND3 ND4 (CS) P11 ON ND5

FIG. 5

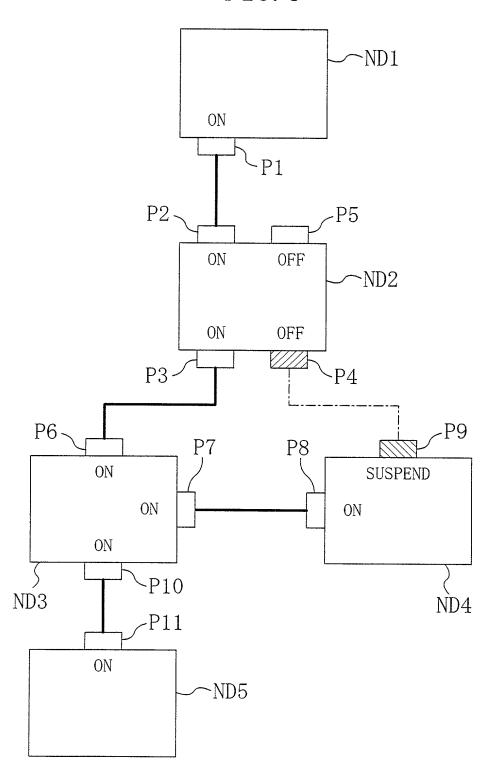


FIG. 6A

[A SMALL NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES] TIME \longrightarrow

WHEN BOTH NODES CONDUCT A A CONFIRMATION PROCESS

WHEN A NODE TO CONDUCT CONFIRMATION PROCESS IS C A SELECTED

FIG. 6B

[A LARGE NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES]

TIME →

WHEN BOTH NODES CONDUCT
CONFIRMATION PROCESS

WHEN A NODE TO CONDUCT
CONFIRMATION PROCESS IS
SELECTED

CONFIRMATION PROCESS IN THE CASE WHERE THERE

CONFIRMATION PROCESS IN THE CASE WHERE THERE ARE A SMALL NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES

CONFIRMATION PROCESS IN THE CASE WHERE THERE ARE A LARGE NUMBER OF COMMUNICATION NODES

PROCESS OF DETERMINING A COMMUNICATION NODE TO CONDUCT CONFIRMATION PROCESS

FIG. 7

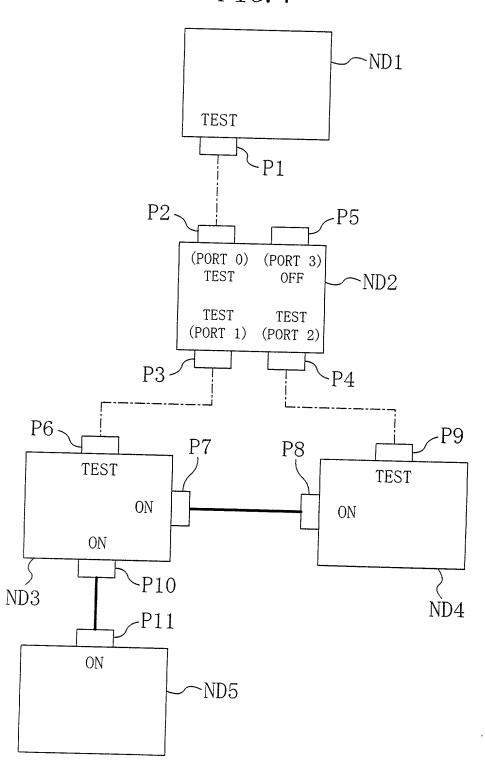


FIG. 8

ARD L.U. BUREEN S. CHRISTER BUREEN STREET

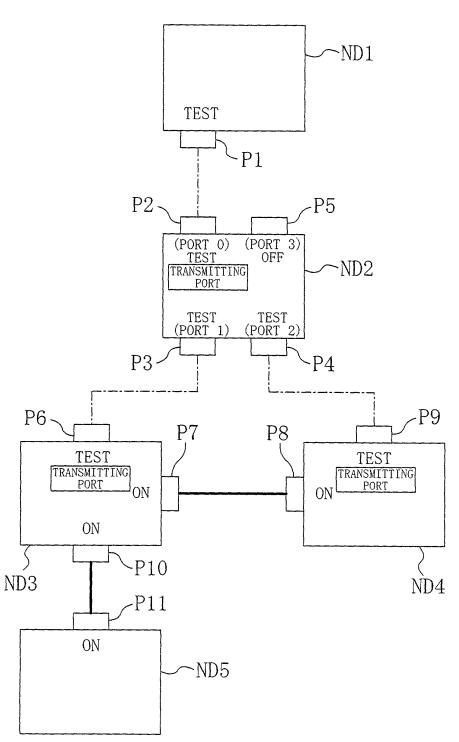


FIG. 9

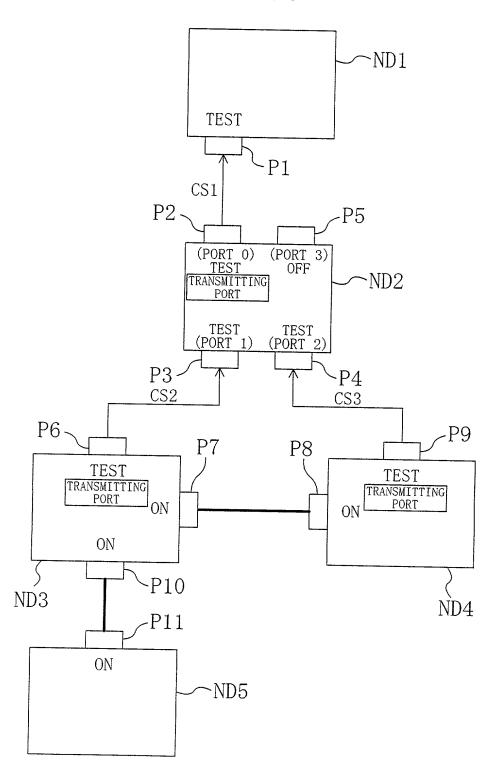


FIG. 10 ND1 ON -P1 P2 P5 (PORT 0) ON (PORT 3) OFF ND2 ON (PORT 1) ON (PORT 2) Р3 P4 P6 P9 P8 ON ON ON ON ON ND3 P10 (ND4 -P11 ON ND5

FIG. 11

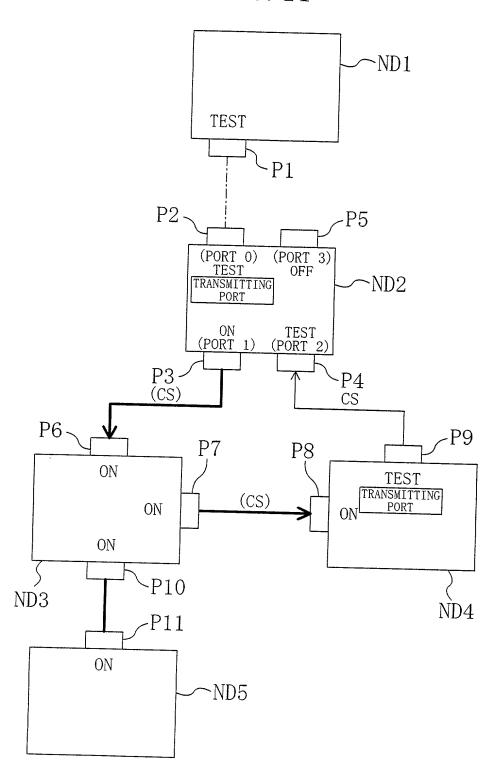


FIG. 12

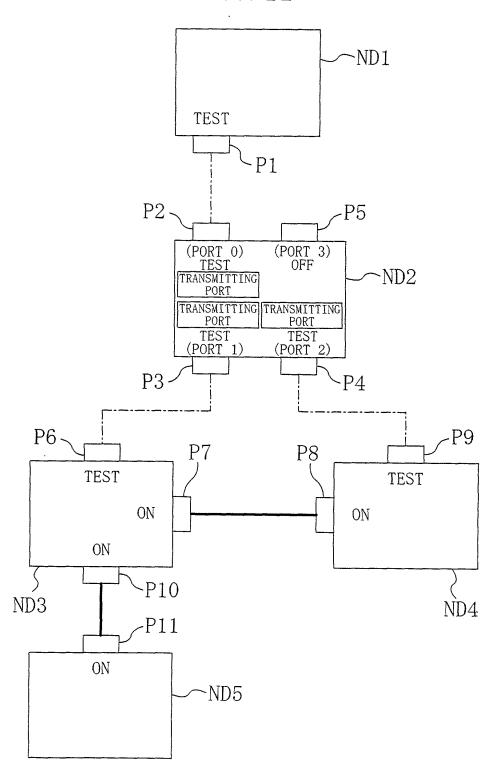


FIG. 13

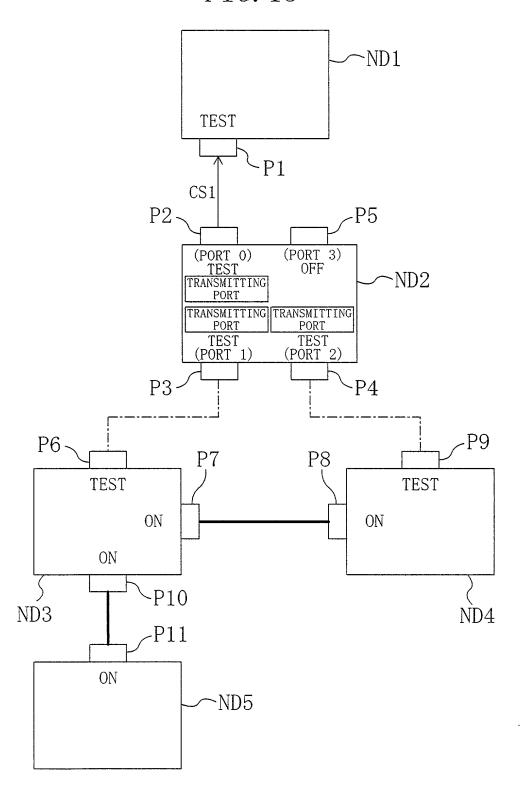


FIG. 14

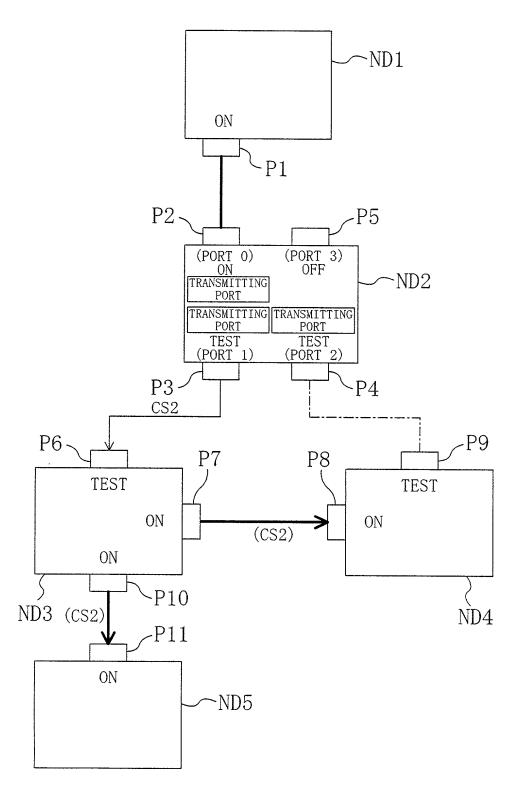


FIG. 15

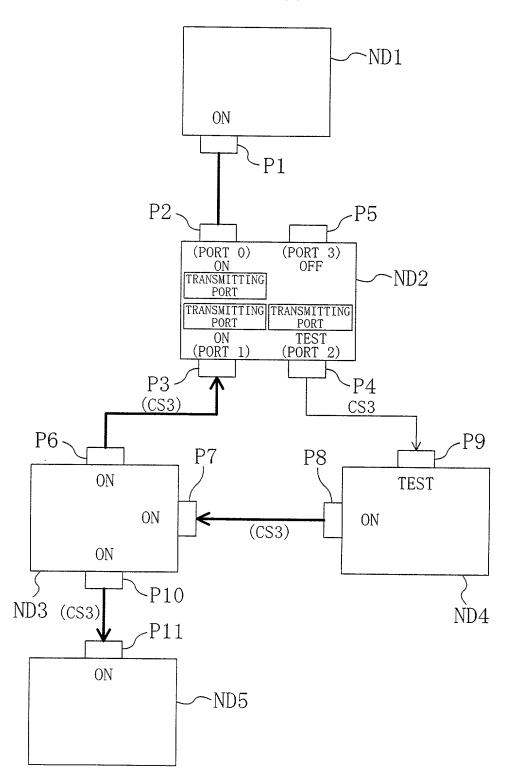


FIG. 16 ND1 ON -P1 P2-P5 (PORT 3) OFF (PORT 0) ON ND2 ON (PORT 1) SUSPEND (PORT 2) Р3 -P4 P6-P9 P7 P8 ON OFF ON ON ON ND3 P10 ND4 -P11 ON ND5

FIG. 17

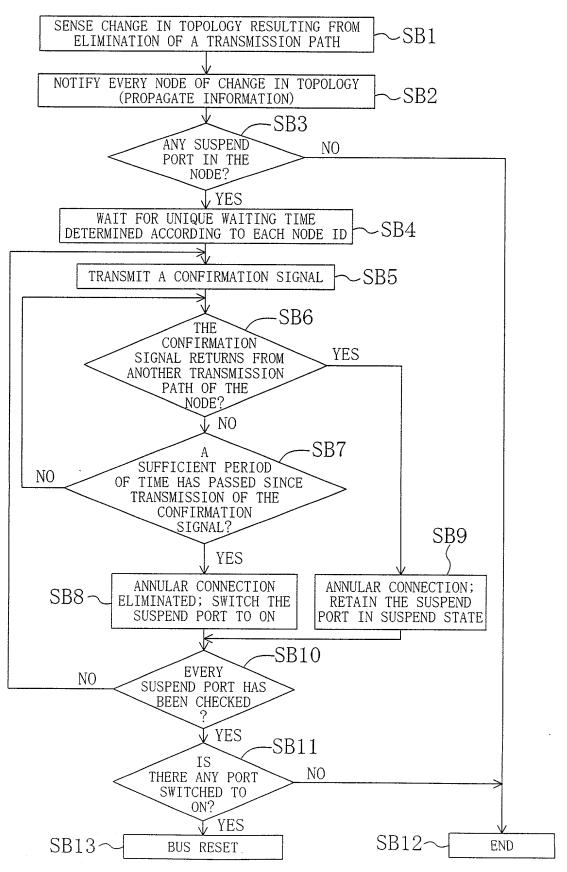


FIG. 18 ND1 ON P1 P2 P5 (PORT 0) ON (PORT 3) OFF ND2 SUSPEND (PORT 2) ON (PORT 1) P3-(CS1) -P4 CS1 P9 P6 P7 P8 ON OFF ON ON (CS1) OFF -P10 ND3 ND4 P11 OFF ND5

FIG. 19

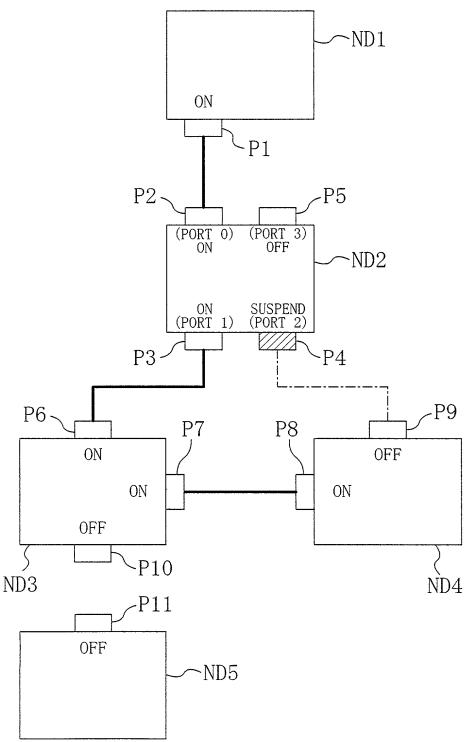


FIG. 20 ND1 ON P1 P2 P5 (PORT 3) OFF (PORT 0) ON ND2 SUSPEND (PORT 2) OFF (PORT 1) Р3 -P4 CS2 -P9 P6-P7 P8 OFF OFF OFF OFF OFF P10 ND3 ND4 P11 OFF ND5

FIG. 21

